

Source Reference
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6 February 1959

Chief, Physical Security Division

Site Security Officer

Visit of the DDCI to the Project Site

1. General Cabell, DDCI; Colonel White, DD/S; [REDACTED] Chief, Building Special Assistant to the DDCI; and [REDACTED] Planning Staff, today visited the Headquarters building site and the undersigned drove them around the construction area in the Office of Security jeep. After viewing the construction activity from various points, Colonel White requested the undersigned to take General Cabell over and show him our Site Security Office and explain to him the operation thereof.

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2. We then visited the Site Security Office and I started explaining to General Cabell our operations. I pointed out the counters for workmen to use in executing biographical data forms, showed him one of the forms, and then explained to him how the men were processed through, photographed and badges issued to them. I was just ready to go on and show General Cabell the rest of the shop and how we maintained our records when he said "Wait a minute, is this all the information you get from the workmen?"; and I replied in the affirmative. Then he said in effect, "Well this is no identification - a hostile agent could give a fictitious name and address and get a badge and nothing more would be done on it." I explained to him that the names were checked against various records. He said well that is merely negative; if a fictitious name and address were given, it would not be revealed - it would merely be "no record". He said he felt that we were not accomplishing any purpose with our procedure - that it wasn't worthwhile. He felt that if it were to accomplish anything, we would have to go further. The question then arose as to fingerprinting as a means of identification, and I told him that the policy decision had been made that we would not fingerprint the contractor's workmen - that only the guards were being fingerprinted. He asked why the workmen weren't fingerprinted, and Colonel White stated that workmen and contractors don't like the idea of fingerprinting. Colonel White added that as a matter of fact at the time we first suggested to GSA officials instituting certain security procedures on the project, they were against any kind of security measures being taken. Colonel White then mentioned that we also had Project [REDACTED], and described it briefly.

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3. General Cabell again repeated that the operation wasn't worthwhile as now being conducted - we weren't going far enough. He asked if we were making any check of the workmen besides the record check and I told him no. He said he felt that we at least ought to spot check some of the workmen's applications, maybe one out of every ten, to ascertain whether or not the names are genuine and the addresses bona fide. He felt that we should make some neighborhood investigations and let the word get around that we were doing such, and then to make an issue of it in any case where we found a fictitious name or address. At this point, he stated he had to leave and could not see the rest of the shop as he was running late for another appointment. The party then left.

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